

MEMOIRS
 Of the most Remarkable
 ENTERPRISES
 AND
 ACTIONS
 OF
 James Duke of York,
 ALBANY and ULSTER



L O N D O N,

Printed for *Richard Janeway* in *Queens-Head-Alley*
 in *Pater-Noster-Row.* 1681.

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JAMES Duke of **YORK**, Brother to our Gracious Sovereign **Charles the Second**, King of **England**, and descending from **James the Sixth**, King of **Scotland**, who bore a unquestionable Title to the Crown of **England** from **James the Fourth**, King of **Scotland**, who married **Margaret** Eldest Daughter of **Henry the Seventh**, King of **England**; by whom he had **James the Fifth**, who had one only Child **Mary Queen of Scots**, who had also one only Son **James the Sixth**, who from **James the Fourth** had undoubted Right to the Kingdom of **Scotland**, and from **Margaret** King **Henry the Seventh** Eldest Daughter (the Male Line being quite extinct) a certain Title to the Crown of **England**, from whose Line descended our late Sovereign Lord King **Charles the First**, and in the same our present Gracious Sovereign **Charles the Second** (whom God preserve.) Also out of the Foresaid Royal Line came **James** Duke of **York**, Brother to our King, who with four Regiments of his Forces joined to **Ormonde** any further Dispute of his Birth or Education, was present to the most memorable Occurrences of this his Majesty's War, and in his Majesty's Person. In the Time of his Fathers and his Brothers our Gracious

cious Sovereigns) late Troubles, Anno 1648. on July the 27th, when the Parliament having gotten the Fleet, but perceiving their own insufficiency, rendred themselves to the Prince, viz. (our present King) then made Captain General of his Father's Forces. The Parliament having some inkling thereof, Commissioned Colonel *Rainsborough* (formerly a Seaman) to the Command thereof; whom the Mariners of the Kings Party fairly put on Shore, having posed him with this Question of Engaging for their Sovereign. With this Naval Force the Prince departed from *Holland*, and came into *Tarmouth* Road, where it was deliberated, whether he should land, and attempt the Relief of *Colchester*; there were then in Company with him at this adverse Season, his Brother the DUKE of *TORK*.

1648. On Apr. the 23^d The DUKE of *TORK* (in the Time of the late Troubles) being disguised in Womens Apparel, made his escape from *St. James's* by Water, and landed at *Dort* in *Holland*, by the help of one *Mr. Bamfield*, who was purposely sent over on that Design by the Queen.

Also Anno 1652. In the encounter of *Esperance* in France, the DUKE of *TORK* (then on the Kings side) so valiantly behaved himself, that the Marshal *De Turenne* his General, gave a very obliging Character of him, as highly meriting in that Service; which procured him special regard and honour from that Court, and all the Grandees of that Nation.

Anno 1657. The DUKE of *TORK* commanding a part of the Spanish Army, was marching to joyn with other Forces to the Relief of *Montmedy* Castle in *Lorraine*, besieged by the French Marshal *De Ferte*; while the English Forces joyned with four Regiments of Horse, were advancing from *Veruins*, part of them, to the number of 300, quartered in a Castle somewhat distant from the Body, the DUKE with a Brigade attacked, and thereupon they presently yielded, and took up Arms with him.

In the same year *Mardike* being taken September 23th and put into *English* hands, the taking whereof was very grievous to the *Dunkirkers*, and *Spanish* side, and therefore it was resolved by *Don John* to hazard a *Scalado* and assault by night: the DUKE of YORK and the Marquess of *Caracene* ordered and were present in the business; and the King our Sovereign, and the Duke of *Gloucester*, had conveyed themselves to *Dunkirk* to see the management of this Attempt. On the 22d. of *Octob.* at night, some 4000 *English*, *Scotch* and *Irish*, and some *Spaniards*, about ten a Clock at night began the Storm with *Hand Granadoes*, and all sorts of Assaulting Engines, and were got into the Trenches, and mounted their Scaling Ladders; but the *English* within, being in readiness, and *Reynolds Morgan* and *Lillingstone* being at that same time there, the Assaultants were with great Slaughter repelled and beaten down; the great Guns from the *English* Fleet (*Riding at the Splinter*) Firing their Broad-sides, being directed by four great Links (set up in the Corners of the Fort) how to miss it: nevertheless about four a Clock the Duke commanded the Assault to be renewed again; which was done with greater Fury, but to as little Advantage; which Event with the approaching Day-light caused a Retreat, the dead being most of them carried off in Waggon.

In the following year 1658 when the *Dunkirk* Fight was managed chiefly on the *Spanish*-side, by the DUKE of YORK (accompanied with the Duke of *Gloucester*.) the Military renown
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of whose Actions was raised in the French Kings Service, he did not only maintain the Fight, till the irresistible daring Gallantry of the honour seeking Red-Coats made the *Spaniard* abandon his *Ponchilio's*, and mend his Retreating Pace, but sustained the Impression upon the Flight, and at least saved the day.

Anno 1660 About the time of his Majesties Restitution, the King being entertained at the *Hayne* in *Holland*, and entreated by several Commissioners in the Name of his Majesties People, to return and resume the Scepter and Government. The King preparing to depart, before which departure the *Dutch* magnificently treated him, But on Sunday the 20th of *May*, the King heard *De Hardy* Preach before him; the place intended was the French Church, after their Sermon; but they knowing of it, being greedy to see the King, would not come out of their Seats; so it was done in the Princesses Lodgings; here the King touched many of the Evil. In the mean while the D U K E of *P O R K* took the Oath of Allegiance of the Fleet, having gone aboard the *Naseby*, where the General treated him; which Ship, at his departure, he called the *Charles*, as afterwards the whole Fleet was new Christened in their way homewards.

Anno 1662. The Queen sailing for *England*, but through the untowardness of the Wind, being protracted of her desires in meeting the King, and her Arrival being in *England* expected every day, a fortnight before, caused the King to send down his Brother the D U K E of *Y O R K*, Lord high-Admiral, to attend on her upon the Coast, and
to

to compliment her in his Name: whereupon his Highness halted to *Portsmouth*, and on the eleventh of *May* attended by the Duke of *Ormond*, the Earl of *Suffolk* and *Chesterfield*, the Lord *Berkley* and other persons of Honour went aboard the stately Yacht, with which the City of *Amsterdam* presented the King, to Coast about the Isle of *Wight* to meet her Majesty. On the same day Sir *Joseph Douglas* making towards *Portsmouth*, with an Express from her Majesty to the King, was met by his Highness the D U K E of Y O R K, five Leagues off the Isle of *Wight*, who commanded him back with him to the Fleet. On *Sunday* Morning about ten a Clock, they discovered the Royal *James*, but there was so great a Calm, that they could not reach the Royal *Charles*, till six at Evening. No sooner had the General espied his Highness Yacht, but he went out in his Barge to meet him, the Royal Banner being all the while vailed till he was aboard. When his Highness came into the Ship, the Soldiers gave three several shouts, and all the great Guns in the Royal *Charles* (which from that time to the Queens entrance had been silent) proclaimed his Welcome. After which, several ships of the Fleet paid him their salutes. Being conducted to her Majesties Cabbins, he was placed in a Chair on her right hand, where after several expressions of Joy for her Majesties happy Arrival on the Coast of *England*, and having presented his Majesties high Respects to, as exceeding Affection to her; his Royal Highness took his leave, to retire himself to his Yacht for that night: and the next morning Sir *Joseph Douglas* was again disparted to the King, in the illustrious company

pany of the said Duke of *Ormond*, and the Earls ; but was forced to Tide it thence, and sometimes lay at Anchor, and could not reach *Portsmouth* till the Evening.

Anno 1663. At the beginning of *November* the DUKE of YORK Lord High-Admiral of *England*, going towards his Charge at *Portsmouth*, having received a Gracious farwel from his Majesty in a short while after, he went aboard, and joyned with the Prince *Rupert*, and Earl of *Sandwich* ; so that it was no easie thing to unlock the Narrow Seas.

But the Action between the English and Dutch Fleets at home being but little, the DUKE of YORK finding that the *Netherlands* had laid up their Ships, and that there was no need of keeping so great a Navy abroad ; with all his Train on the seventh of *September* arrived at *Whitehall*, leaving a considerable number of stout Vessels, under the Conduct of the Earl of *Sandwich* having before his departure, by a Speech which he made them, inspired the Seamen with Resolution chearfully to obey the commands of their Admiral in whatever Enterprize he should have further Order to prosecute.

In the same and following year, the *Hollanders* preparations for War being open and publick, therefore the King journied from Port to Port, to hasten out his Fleet, as also by his presence to encourage the Seamen, that by the 25th of *March* ending the year 1664. The Fleet was magnificently prepared, with all necessary Provision, being ready to receive their Admiral the DUKE of YORK, who some days before, went very early

early in the Morning to his Charge, attended with divers eminent and honourable Voluntiers.

Anno 1665. In the War with *Holland*, the DUKE of YORK impatient of their stay, resolved to give 'um a visit upon their own Coasts and accordingly with 114 Sail, made for the *Texel*, within five Leagues whereof, he came to an Anchor; some of the Fleet venturing within two Leagues of the Shore, where the DUKE took a full View of the Dutch Ships. Some few days after, they shewed themselves just before the mouth of the Harbour, to the great amazement of the People ashore. Nor did the English forsake their Stations for a long Season, being now encreased to 120 Sail, which made the Hollanders erect Beacons all along the Coast of *Holland*, from the *Texel* to the *Maes*, to give notice upon any Attempt of Landing.

The DUKE did stay longer than he intended, partly in expectation to draw the Dutch to an Engagement; partly by reason of cross winds, and harie weather. Among many Fogs, there happened one for the Hollanders good: for the DUKE having commanded three Frigats out of his own Squadron, and four out of the *White* and *Blew*, to try if they could meet with any Holland Merchant men returning toward the *Vly* the Fog was so great, that only the three first could Sail. Had not this Fog prevented, the whole Fleet had fallen into the hands of the English, however ten Sail were taken, laden with Wine and Brandy; only one *West-India-ship* of good value, another from *Lisbon*, and the last English Vessel taken by them before in the *Soundings*:

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there were afterwards at times fourteen or sixteen more taken, and eight or nine run aground; which was the fatal account the *Hollanders* had of their *Burdeaux-Fleet* this year.

Anno 1672. Then the *D U K E* returning from the Fleet to *London*, put an end to all expectations of any considerable Actions at Sea in this aforesaid year.

Anno 1673. The *D U K E* met the Dutchess of *Modena* about the latter end of *November* in that year (the arriving at *Dover* in order to her intermarriage with his Highness) and some few days after coming from *Gravesend* to *London*, by water, was by his Majesty and divers of the Nobility met in Barges upon the River, and so conducted to *White-Hall*, where, after her Royal Highness had been received in the most obliging and kind manner by her Majesty, she was Conducted to *Sr. James's*, within few days after their Royal Highnesses gave Audience to the *French*, *Portugal*, *Swedish* and *Danish* Embassadors, as likewise to the Residents of *Venice* and *Newburg*, who all went to Compliment them upon their late Marriage.

Since the Discovery of the Popish-Plot his Highness hath resided much in *Scotland*.

Further,

Fitz-Harris going to take his leave of Father *Gough* an *English-Priest*, at *Paris*, the said *Gough* affirming in Discourse, that the *D U K E* of *Y O R K* was a Catholick, *Fitz Harris* requiring of him how long the *D U K E* had been a Catholick, he Answered the Queen-Mother had made him so.

Mr.

Mr. *Dugdals* in his Information given before the House of Commons relateth that one *Francis Evers* a Jesuite, telling him it might not be long before they might expect good times, for that the D U K E of Y O R K having declared himself a Roman-Catholick, had given a good assurance to the Pope, besides being a Prince of that Resolution, &c. that if ever he made any engagement, he would never revoke it, which gave them great hopes of dispersing the dark Clouds of Heresy (as by them called) He not only having engaged himself solemnly to them for the establishing of their Religion, but also that he would restore them to all their Church-Lands, and other priviledges taken from their Church formerly. But from several private Gentlemen, as well as Priests, he gives an account, that he heard it debated at several of their private Meetings, what the D U K E of Y O R K S pleasure was, that as he had given them an assurance of his part, they should not be negligent to do theirs, and that they should be in all readines, with all necessities when the King should dye, to assist him against the Protestants.

Again, the aforesaid person relateth, that he being in Company with Mr. *Evers*, pressed of him to know the Reason why they should kill Sir *Edmundbury Godfrey*? Mr. *Evers* told him, that the D U K E of Y O R K had sent a Message to *Coleman*, after he was taken, that he should not Confess any thing, he returned the D U K E an Answer back, that it had been his misfortune, to declare all that he knew of the matter to Sir *Edmundbury Godfrey*, and he heard that Sir *Edmundbury*

bury Godfrey would come in a Witness against him, in regard he had been so diligent in taking Examinations: The DUKE returned him Answer back again, that bid him be sure not to confess, and he should not need to fear Sir *Edmund Bury Godfrey*, and that there should be care taken, or somewhat to that purpose.

Also Mr. *Dangerfield* gives Account, that about the Months of September or of October 1679: That Mrs. *Cellier* and himself then waiting of the Lord *Peterborough*, to be introduced to the DUKE of YORK, after some Discourse, his Lordship took them into the DUKES Closet (at *White-Hall*) where having kissed the DUKES hand, Mr. *Dangerfield* gave his Royal-Highness a little Book, containing a Scheme, and the pretended Discovery he had made in the *Presbyterian Plot*, which the Duke after some short perusal of, thanked him for: and also for his diligence in the Catholick Cause: desired him to go on, and wished him good success in all his undertakings: adding in these words, *viz.* That the *Presbyterian Plot* was a thing of most weighty Consequence; and if well managed, would be conducive to the safety of the Catholick Cause: not questioning but the effects of it would Answer their expectations, especially in the Northern parts, where I am well assured the Major part of the Gentry are his friends, and have given sufficient Demonstration of their Affections to him, likewise of their intents to prosecute the *Presbyterian Plot* to the utmost. After this his Highness ordered that Mr. *Dangerfield* and Mrs. *Cellier* to be careful of what they communicated to the persons who were

to be Witnesses in the New Plot, lest they should be caught in the subornation and thereby bring a terrible Odium upon the Catholicks, and so they be made incapable of any further Service. After this, the Duke informed them, that in a Month or two's time the Commissions would be ready ; but ordered them in the mean time to bring their parts to bear with the Commissions, and particularly ordered Mr. *Dangerfield* to find out some persons, which were fit to be trusted, and that should accept of such Commissions which should be delivered by a person appointed for that purpose, but not to be known to them to be any other but a Presbyterian : So that when occasion should require, they might, together with those which Mr. *Dangerfield* Mrs. *Cellier*, &c. had then, be ready to swear in the Plot, and that the Presbyterians were raising Forces against the King and Government, and had given out Commissions to that purpose. And in Order to this, Mr. *Dangerfield* in some short time after procured several to accept of such Commissions, when they should be ready ; whose business in the mean time was, to spread Reports in the Coffee-houses, that the Popish-Plot was a contrivance of the Presbyterians.

For their encouragement in the prosecution of that Sham-Plot, the D U K E promised, that he would take care that money should not be wanting ; but ordered them to use all the expedition the thing would allow to make a Discovery thereof to the King. After which, the Duke said, The Catholick party would be eased of the Charge in regard it would be defrayed some other way.

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The D U K E then made divers Vows and bitter Execrations to stand by them in the thing, and engaged on his honour to be their Rewarder. Adding, that such considerable Heresies were not to be slighted : further promising, that to whose Lot soever it should happen to be imprisoned, according to their fidelity and stedfastness in the Cause, so much the more should their Reward be augmented : and that all care possible should be used to support and preserve them : and particularly, desiring Mr. *Dangerfield* to keep up to the courageous and active Character which his Highness had heard of him. All which Mr. *Dangerfield* promised to do.

Mr. *Dangerfield* some time after went to wait on the Lord *Peterborough*, from the Lady *Powis*, to the end that he might move the D U K E to get him with all expedition to the King : he then being ready.

About four days after this, my Lord *Peterborough* sending for Mr. *Dangerfield*, and took him to the D U K E again (who was then in his Cloister at *White-Hall*) and the D U K E told Mr. *Dangerfield*, that he must prepare himself to wait on the King, to give his Majesty a more particular Account of the Presbyterian Plot than what the little Book made mention of, (which Book the D U K E said he had given to the King) And that he had so ordered the matter, that Mr. *Dangerfield* should be

be furnished with money, to enable him in the prosecution thereof. But his Highness charged him to consider well his Story, before he waited on the King.

Then the Duke told him, that by his diligence, he had gained a good Reputation among the Catholicks, and that he should by his Service to that Cause, highly merit: Adding, that in a short time, he should see the Catholick Religion flourish in these Kingdoms, and Heresie torn up by the Roots, and that he had heard of the Proposal which had been made him by the Lords *Powis* and *Arundell*, about taking off the King, and about his Refusal; as also, what he had accepted, touching my Lord *Shafisbury*, and of all his Transactions in the Presbyterian Plot: saying in these very words, *viz.* If you value the Religion you profess, and my Interest (as you say you do) and your own future Happiness, take my Advice, and depend upon my Honour and Interest for your Advancement.

For, Sir, you look like a Man of Courage and Wit: therefore less Discourse may serve with you than another. So that if you will but move by the Measures that I will give you, you shall not only escape with safety, but be rewarded according to the greatness of your Actions.

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To which Mr. *Dangerfield* Replied, that he would stand and fall in defence of the Roman Catholick Religion, and his Highness Service; adding that he was not a little concerned for his refusing to kill the King, by whom he was well satisfied by his Ghostly Father, stood Condemned as an Heretick. But this he did offer, that if his Highness would command him to the Attempt, he would not fail, either to accomplish it or to loose his Life.

Upon which the D U K E gave him twenty Guinies, and said, that if he would be rigorous in what he had already undertaken, he would so order it, that his Life should not be in the least danger: adding, we are not to have men taken in such daring Actions, but to have them make an effectual dispatch, and be gon; some time after this, when Mr. *Dangerfield* was ready to convey the Letters into Collonel *Mansels* Chamber, he went to the Lord *Peterborough* who brought him to the D U K E, whom Mr. *Dangerfield* told, that he was ready to fix the Letters in Collonel *Mansels* Chamber, to which his Highness answered that he must make haste, that he might be impowered to make a General search of the like Nature, for said the D U K E, since I saw you last, the Lady *Powis* hath informed me, that there are abundance of Letters and Witnesses Ready, so that it is now high time to begin.

F I N I S.